

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

XMT AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION STATE INFO GENEVA FROM BRASILIA AUG 29,

REPEATED TO YOU:

QUOTE

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DEPT PLEASE PASS TO ALL ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, CECLA, BR

SUBJ: CECLA MEETING: GOB VIEWS ON TRADE DECLARATION

REF: BRASILIA 5555

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED OUTCOME OF CECLA MEETING WITH FONOFF
TRADE EXPERT BARTHEL-ROSA WHO COMMENTED THAT MEETING WAS
DIFFICULT AND THAT FINAL STATEMENT (REFTEL) REPRESENTED LOWEST
COMMON DENOMINATOR OF AGREEMENT. HE SAID A COMMON LA POSITION
ON GATT PREPCOM DRAFT DECLARATION WAS IMPOSSIBLE AND CECLA
COUNTRIES COULD ONLY AGREE TO CONSULT ON POSITIONS THEY
WOULD TAKE AT TOKYO MEETING. SOME COUNTRIES, PRIMARILY CHILE
AND PERU, STRONGLY OPPOSED PREPCOM DRAFT AS TOTALLY INADEQUATE
IN ACCOMMODATING LDC INTERESTS AND WANTED TO PRESS FOR FURTHER
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REVISIONS. OTHER COUNTRIES, LED BY BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA, TOOK

A PRAGMATIC VIEW AND WERE WILLING TO ACCEPT PREPCOM DRAFT AS REPRESENTING SOME PROGRESS TOWARD RECOGNITION OF LDC ASPIRATIONS. BARTHEL SAID LATTER GROUP OF COUNTRIES WAS MORE INTERESTED IN CONCRETE, NEGOTIABLE ISSUES RATHER THAN GENERALIZED AND UNCLEAR STATEMENTS, SUCH AS THOSE ON INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR AND COMPLEMENTARY OBJECTIVES. BOTH OF THESE, HE SAID, WERE FAVORITE THEMES OF THE CHILEANS.

2. BARTHEL SAID THAT MOST IMPORTANT POINTS FOR BRAZIL IN THE CECLA DOCUMENT WERE PARAGRAPHS ON DIFFERENTIAL METHODS, REFORM OF THE TRADING SYSTEM AND GENERALIZED PREFERENCES (SUBPARAS 2.D, 2.E, AND 2. F OF REFTEL.) ON DIFFERENTIATED METHODS, HE SAID CECLA PAPER RE-INTRODUCES EXPRESSION OF "PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT" DROPPED BY GATT PREPCOM. HE ADDED THAT BRAZIL WOULD SEEK TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE THIS CONCEPT DURING COURSE OF EARLY NEGOTIATING TALKS IN GENEVA.

3. CECLA PARA ON REFORM OF TRADING SYSTEM REPRESENTS GOB VIEWS EXPRESSED IN GENEVA, AND, ACCORDING TO BARTHEL, TENDS TO SUPPORT U.S. POSITION IN FAVOR OF REVISING RULES OF TRADE, COMPARED TO EC OPPOSITION. FULL TEXT OF TRADE REFORM PARA (SUMMARIZED SUBPARA 2.E REFTEL) IS AS FOLLOWS: "REFORM OF GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS-ANY IMPROVEMENT OR REFORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM FOR WORLD TRADE SHOULD ESTABLISH NEW RULES BENEFITTING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY, WITH REFERENCE TO THE GENERAL AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER MULTILATERAL INSTRUMENT, BY PREFERENTIAL OR DIFFERENTIATED TREATMENT FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE DIFFERENT TRADE AREAS".

4. BARTHEL SAID THAT CECLA STATEMENT ON LEAST DEVELOPED (SUBPARA 2.G REFTEL) WAS ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED IN PRESS IN THAT AN IMPORTANT QUALIFYING STATEMENT WAS LEFT OFF. HE SAID STATEMENT IN OFFICIAL TEXT (NOT YET DISTRIBUTED) CALLED FOR ADDITIONAL BENEFITS FOR LEAST DEVELOPED AND LAND-LOCKED BUT THAT SUCH BENEFITS "IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNCTAD RESOLUTION 62(III) SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE THE INTERESTS OF OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES" BARTHEL SAID THAT GOB DID NOT LIKE THE LEAST DEVELOPED PARA IN THE PREPCOM DRAFT AND MIGHT ATTEMPT TO GET IT MODIFIED IN TOKYO.

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5. EMBOFF INQUIRED IF CECLA MEETING TOUCHED ON SUBJECT OF COFFEE CONSULTATIONS (AS SUGGESTED GENEVA'S 4606). BARTHEL SAID THERE WERE NO COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS DURING MEETING AND ADDED THAT BRAZIL IS WILLING TO ACCEPT COFFEE CONSULTATIONS IN UNCTAD BUT THAT COLOMBIA IS ADAMANTLY OPPOSED.

6. BARTHEL SAID THAT COMPOSITION OF GOB DELEGATION FOR TOKYO IS STILL UNCERTAIN. FONMIN GIBSON BARBOZA WOULD NORMALLY HEAD

DELEGATION BUT HE HAS NOT YET INDICATED WHETHER OR NOT HE IS GOING. FONOFF BELIEVES MEETING WILL BE LARGELY CEREMONIAL AND NOGUEIRA BATISTA DOES NOT PLAN TO ATTEND. FONOFF OFFICIALS AMAURY BIER AND BARTHEL-ROSA WILL BE ON DELEGATION PLUS SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES FROM DOMESTIC MINISTRIES. CRIMMINS

UNQUOTE ROGERS

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